3 April 45

I PW of 10 Btry, 506 Army AA Brigade

The Brigade consists of 2 Bm. the first of which was formed last Nevember and sent to the Ruhr region in February. 2nd Bm is a new unit formed in the period between January and March 45 in Denmark (Trainings camp Oxboel). March 17 it was sent to Buer. PW had lost contact with his unit on the way down from Denmark and does not know where the Brigade is at present.

Each Bm. has I HQ Btry, 4 light Btries, and I heavy Btry(the 5 th and IOth.)
Each light Stry has 4 pltns with 6 multiple (3) barrel 20mm AA guns, I mg, several
small bazeekas and 30 mem. The heavy Btries have 4 pltns each of which has
3 multiple(4) 20mm AA guns, 3 multiple(2) barrel 37mm AA guns, 2 mg and 35 mem.

50 Steyr trucks, originally for personnel and instruments, had to act as prime movers as En motor pool of small tractors had not yet been assembled.

20 % of personnel are of foreign extraction and considered unreliable. CO of 10 Bty Capt. Hermann, of 2nd Bn. Capt Backmann, of Brigade LtCol Heil. The troops are undertrained. There are only a few old hands at the game. The Btries fired only against deep flying planes and troops.

PW describes a new radio , the Kamrad instrument, used for communications between Bn and Btries (both for voice and CW), with a range of 25 km. The Kenrad instrument comes from Prague and its poor functioning -- resistance burns easily -- is ascribed to sabotage during production.

Pw, having lest his Btry, joired as radio man the staff of 221 Aircorps AA Bm thich has 3 Btries of 105 AA guns each, 2 of which moved with Bn CP last Saturday from RECKLINGHAUSEN to BOCHUM while a third Btry was ordered stay to the last, not fire to the last round and then try to withdraw.after blowing up the pieces.

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2 PW from 454 Trng Bn probably attached to 2nd Para Div.

454 Trng Bn censists of 3 Ces, each of which has approx. ICO men, 4 mg, 4 mp. The whole Bn is committed here.

Pesitions and locations:

Ist Co

Ist plateen from 573278 to 585277

2nd platson plus Ist squad 3rd plateen from 573278 to

Two other squads of third plateon are in reserve at Ist Co CP.

2nd Ce

Along canal W of 563279

Velkssturm Sauerland (company strength)

Along canal E of 585277

3rd Co

pesition unknown to PW. Might be in reserve.

Ist Co CP in central building of mine S. of RR station 584273

I smg apprex 577277, en sand hill SE of chateau

Co Bn Capt Weber.

Our Arty fire all day yesterday (6 April) was inefficient as reunds fell ICO yards tee far to rear.

The fellewing information was estained from various persons (deserters, miners, Velksstrum, Russians) having crossed the canal today or yesterday. Mest of them crossed the canal by beat. Some of them used the sluices at 602278, passable for single men, and the remnants of the bridge at595284 to pass the Emscher.

I gun of unspecified caliber at 628244 (seen 6 April)

3 seldiers with small bazeekas at 629286

3e4 greups of I5 seldiers in Herne. A few seldiers in heles at 635286.

The sluice at 602278 is guarded by 5 Velkssturm meuerland men.

RR bridge 553276 -- still passable -- guarded by para treeps.

Mine at 552273 held by para unit. Part of para unit helding Colony Sundern was withdrawn yesterday night.

At 540271 2mgs and 2 small bazeekas. The eight men crew is replaced eftery night at 2100 and sleeps in housese at 543277. RR bridge at 540271 is guarded by three men -- possibly only at night.

FO in tower in camp at about 534258.

Merale of men very peer. Knewing that the fight is hepeless than do not intend to fight and would desert if the canal and the prepagands stories about American cruelty to PW were not in the way.